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PATENT Docket No.: SYM-606C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2143-

Examiner: Neurauter, George C.

Pre-Amel+F

Serial No.: 09/686,123

Filed: October 10, 2000

422

In re Application of: Gernert et al.

7.0.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 22104.

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Krista Thompson

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAR 0 3 2004

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action dated February 19, 2004, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.